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ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE



ADVISORY COMMITTEE SEEKS PUBLIC COMMENT ON BURDENSOME REGULATIONS IN HIGHER EDUCATION

The Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance is encouraging the public to help identify Title IV higher education regulations that are duplicative, no longer necessary, inconsistent with other federal regulations, and/or overly burdensome by visiting the following site:

Community Suggestions Website

The Advisory Committee will use this information to provide a comprehensive report to Congress and the Secretary of Education on streamlining regulations from all sectors in higher education. The initial focus of this review will be on Title IV. Preliminary analysis of public comment will begin on July 15, 2009.

The website is part of a broader congressional charge that the Advisory Committee conduct a thorough review and analysis of higher education regulations and deliver periodic updates to Congress over a three-year period.

In addition to the public forum on the website, the Advisory Committee has, to aid the report, convened a review panel of experts from the higher education community who are experienced with federal regulations. Collectively, the panelists have experience within the major sectors in higher education:

- Ms. Sarah Bauder, Director of Student Financial Aid, University of Maryland, College Park
- Mr. Richard Jerue, President, Art Institute of Charleston
- Ms. Linda Michalowski, Vice Chancellor of Student Services & Special Programs, California Community Colleges Systems Office
- Ms. Angela Peoples, Legislative Director, United States Student Association
- **Dr. Terri Standish-Kuon**, Vice President, Communications & Administration, Commission on Independent Colleges and Universities
- **Ms. Christine Zuzack**, Vice President for State & Special Grant Programs, Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency

Panelists were selected for their expertise and their ability to reach out to and stimulate broad involvement of the higher education community. The Committee has asked that each panelist reach out to his or her community for suggestions and ideas about particular regulations.

The Advisory Committee's charge is not the first federal regulatory review of higher education. In 1999, an initiative of the Department of Education was conducted, entitled *Student Financial Assistance Regulatory Review*. In 2001, *Upping the Effectiveness of our Federal Student Aid Programs* (FED UP) was initiated by Representatives Howard P. (Buck) McKeon and Patsy Mink. These two reviews covered only regulations created in the 1990s and the early part of this decade, and significant pieces of legislation related to higher education have passed into law since then, on which the Committee analysis will focus.

The Advisory Committee will provide a final report on the initiative to Congress no later than two years after the Department of Education's negotiated rulemaking process for the *Higher Education Opportunity Act* is complete, through which legislation the initiative is mandated. This final report will detail the review panels' findings and recommendations with respect to the review of regulations prescribed in statute.